

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A sports pole mounting structure, comprising:

an in-ground sleeve;

5 a support member mounted within said in-ground sleeve; and

a bracket attachable to the sports pole and engagable with said support member to support the sports pole and inhibit rotation of the sports pole.

2. A sports pole mounting structure according to claim1, wherein said bracket

comprises a first piece and second piece, the first piece and second piece are secured together

10 around the sports pole and joined by fasteners located on opposite sides of the sports pole.

3. A sports pole mounting structure according to claim2, wherein at least one of the

first piece and second piece includes an engagement member, the engagement member extending below the sports pole and engaging said support member.

4. A sports pole mounting structure according to claim3, wherein the engagement

15 member includes at least one protrusion for inhibiting rotation of the sports pole, wherein the at least one protrusion extends substantially below the upper surface of the support member such that the at least one protrusion inhibits rotation of the sports pole.

5. A sports pole mounting structure according to claim 4, wherein the at least one

20 protrusion comprises a first protrusion and a second protrusion, the first protrusion and the second protrusion being positioned to receive said support member between the first protrusion and the second protrusion.

6. A sports pole mounting structure according to claim 4, further comprising a collar

having an aperture and at least one engagement section, the collar receiving the sports pole through the aperture and the collar being positionable on the sports pole above said bracket such
25 that the at least one engagement section is engageable with said in-ground sleeve.

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7. A sports pole mounting structure according to claim 6, wherein the collar further comprises at least two engagement sections of different sizes.

8. A sports pole mounting structure according to claim 6, wherein the sports pole supports a basketball goal.

5 9. A sports pole mounting structure according to claim 6, wherein the sports pole supports a volleyball net.